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Herb Boome 506B Spring Lake Road Ocala, FL 34472

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

After three long years of expensive court battles, Microsoft and the government have settled an antitrust suit that will permanently change the face of the computer industry. I think this will boost our economy, because it will free this innovative company to focus on what it does best.

The agreement they came up with was the result of extensive negotiations with a court-appointed mediator. The company agreed to terms that extend well beyond the procedures and products that were actually at issue in the suit. For the sake of expediency -- and a first in an antitrust settlement -- Microsoft has even agreed to document and disclose, for use by its competitors, various interfaces that are internal to Windows' operating system products.

The Federal Government has many more important issues to tackle. It should allow the provisions of this settlement to fall into place.

This agreement notwithstanding, I do not see any reason for the government to sue Microsoft in the courts ever again.

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Sincerely.

Herb Boome